GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1152
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Export of Fruits and Vegetables
Singh Shri Abhishek

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether some countries have imposed a ban on India"s export of fruits and vegetables;

b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and

c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to facilitate export of indigenous fruits and vegetables?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)
(a) Yes Madam.
(b) The European Union (EU) had placed a temporary prohibition on import of Mangoes and certain fresh vegetables like Taro plant (Arbi), Brinjal, Bitter gourd and Snake gourd from India w.e.f. 01.04.2014. Ban on import of Mangoes has since been lifted w.e.f. 05.02.2015. Foe lifting of ban on the other items, the Agricultural & Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organization under the department of Commerce, has taken up the issue with EU authorities through the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MOA&FW). MOA&FW has sent a detailed action plan to addressed the concerns raised by EU and requested them to lift the ban. Response is awaited from EU authorities.

Saudi Arabia has imposed ban on import of green chilly from India. A delegation comprising of representatives from Ministry of Agriculture, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia visited India from 23.10.2015 to 30.10.2015. The delegation visited APEDA approved packhouses, laboratory, National Referral Laboratory at Pune, and green chilly farms at Nashik. Outcome of the visit is awaited from Saudi Arabia authorities.

(c) Encouraging exports of agricultural products, including fruits & vegetables, is a continuous process. APEDA provides financial assistance to exporters of horticulture produce, including indigenous fruits and vegetables, through various components of its Plan Scheme viz. Infrastructure Development, Market Promotion, Quality Development and Transport Assistance. Besides these measures, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI) and Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme (MEIS) etc. to provide assistance to encourage exports.

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